



*L. J. Living*



ADLENGTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

---

R E P O R T  
OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

---

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1957.



To:- The Chairman and Members of the Urban District Council of Adlington.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting to you the report on the Health and Sanitary Circumstances of the District for the year ended 31st December 1957.

The number of births attributable to the District was 11 less than in the previous year, giving a Birth Rate of 13.4 per 1000 population as compared with the Birth Rate for the country as a whole of 16.1. It is perhaps worth noting that triplets (two girls and a boy) were included amongst the births registered.

The number of deaths attributable to the District was 13 more than in the year 1956 giving a Death Rate of 14.9 per 1000 population as compared with the Death Rate for the country as a whole of 11.5. It should be noted, however, that 35 of the deaths which occurred were of persons 70 or more years of age; of these, 15 were 75 or more, 10 were 80 or more, and one was 92 years of age.

In regard to causes of death, heart disease was accountable for 4 more deaths than in the previous year, whilst the number of deaths from malignant neoplasms was increased by 7.

There was one death from tuberculosis. There was no death from this cause in 1956. Deaths from other causes show only minor variations.

Although the district experienced the Asian 'Flu epidemic, no deaths from Asian 'Flu were recorded.

It is very pleasing to report that no infants died before reaching one year of age. This would appear to be the first time since records have been kept that there has been no such death.

It is also pleasing to report that there were no stillbirths during the year, the last occasion when there were no stillbirths was in 1953.

In regard to notifications of acute infectious diseases, there were 31 as compared with 26 in 1956. This decrease is due to the relatively few cases of Measles and Whooping Cough which occurred during the year.

The Council's proposals in regard to slum clearance have not yet been put into effect, but it is intended that these will receive further consideration in the near future.

During the early part of 1957, a new chlorinating plant was installed at the Harding Street Pumphouse, since which time the reports of samples of water taken from the Manchester Corporation Thirlmere Aqueduct supply have all proved satisfactory.

The Clean Air Act, 1956, gave local authorities the means of dealing with the menace of atmospheric pollution. A smoke-laden atmosphere is found to have an adverse effect on health. The provisions of this Act should be vigorously implemented.

Attention has been given during the year to the implementation of the Food Hygiene Regulations, and the response from the various retailers is very encouraging.

In conclusion, I wish to express my thanks to the Officers of the Council for their willing assistance at all times. My thanks are also due to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for the support and consideration extended to me.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,  
Your obedient Servant,

J. WALKER.

Medical Officer of Health.

July, 1958.

Digitized by the Internet Archive  
in 2016 with funding from  
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b28797243>

URBAN DISTRICT OF ADLINGTON

## VITAL STATISTICS 1957

Area	...	...	...	1062 acres
Population (Registrar-General's Estimate Mid-1957)			...	4170
No. of inhabited houses		...	...	1381
Rateable Value at 1st April 1957		...	...	£28,727.
Product of 1d Rate	...	...	...	£116-3-5d.

## Births

		<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Live Births - Legitimate	...	30	24	54
Illegitimate	...	2	-	2
		<u>32</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>56</u>

Birth Rate per 1000 population - Crude = 13.4  
Adjusted = 14.4.

Stillbirths	...	...	-	-	Nil.
-------------	-----	-----	---	---	------

Deaths	Male	Female	Total
	34	28	62

Death Rate per 1000 population - Crude = 14.9  
Adjusted= 16.5

Deaths from Puerperal causes	...	...	Nil.
Maternal Mortality	...	...	Nil.

Deaths of Infants under one year...	...	Nil.
-------------------------------------	-----	------

Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks ...	...	Nil.
-------------------------------------	-----	------

All infants per 1000 live births (i.e. Infant Mortality Rate)	...	...	Nil.
--	-----	-----	------

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	14
do. Measles	...	...	-
do. Whooping Cough	...	...	-
do. Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	...	...	-

<u>Causes of Death</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Tuberculosis ...	1	-	1
Coronary disease (angina) ...	3	2	5
Other Heart Disease ...	10	9	19
Hypertension with Heart Disease ...	1	1	2
Vascular lesions of nervo-us system	4	4	8
Other circulatory diseases ...	2	-	2
Malignant Neoplasms ...	8	6	14
Suicide ...	1	-	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	1	3	4
Other accidents ...	-	1	1
Congenital Malformations ...	1	-	1
Motor Accidents ...	1	-	1
Syphilitic Disease ...	-	1	1
Diabetes ...	-	1	1
Leukaemia ...	1	-	1
	<u>34</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>62</u>





	Live Births		Deaths (All Causes)		Stillbirths		Maternal Mortality		Infant Mortality			
									Total		Neo-natal	
	No. of regist- ered.	Rate per 1000 pop.	No. of regist- ered.	Rate per 1000 pop.	No. of regist- ered.	Rate per 1000 live births	No. of Deaths regist- ered.	Rate per 1000 total births	No. of Deaths regist- ered.	Rate per 1000 live births	No. of Deaths regist- ered	Rate per 1000 live births
Year 1957	56	13.4	62	14.9	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil
Year 1956	67	16.1	49	11.8	1	15	nil	nil	4	60	2	30
Year 1955	50	12.2	52	12.7	1	20	nil	nil	2	40	1	20
Year 1954	64	15.6	47	11.4	1	15	nil	nil	5	78	3	47
Year 1953	63	15.4	38	9.3	nil	nil	nil	nil	1	16	1	16
Year 1952	67	16.4	60	14.7	2	29	nil	nil	4	60	3	45
Average 5 years 1952 - 1956	62	15.1	49	12.0	1	15.8	nil	nil	3	50.8	2	31.6

Adjusted (live birth-rate (comparability factor 1.07) = 14.4 per 1000  
(death-rate (comparability factor 1.11) = 15.5 per 1000





## GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES

### Staff

Medical Officer of Health:- Dr. J. Walker, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,  
L.D.S., D.P.D.

Sanitary Inspector(Part-time):- Norman R. Bolton, R.S.I.

### Laboratory Facilities.

Pathological Laboratory, Preston Royal Infirmary.  
Pathological Laboratory, Bolton Royal Infirmary.

### Ambulance Facilities.

Provided by Lancashire County Council Ambulance Service.  
(Chorley Depot) - Telephone: Chorley 2744.

All the ambulance vehicles are now radio-controlled from the County Ambulance Headquarters at Broughton.

### Nursing in the Home.

There is one "District Nurse" practising in the area. She is Nurse Holden, 6 Rivington Avenue, Adlington. Telephone-Adlington 394.

### Treatment Clinics.

The "Minor Ailment" Clinic is held at 20 St. Thomas's Road, Chorley. Ancillary School Clinics (Orthopaedic, Dental and Eye, etc.) are held at Chorley and attended by Practitioners of Specialist status. Attendance is by appointment via School Medical Staff.

### Tuberculosis Clinic.

The Chest Clinic, 34 St. Thomas's Road, Chorley.  
A Chest Physician (Dr. Nicholson) attends.  
This Clinic is also used as a consultant clinic for chest conditions other than tuberculosis.

### Hospital Facilities.

Chorley and District Hospital.  
Eaves Lane Hospital, Chorley.  
Wigan Infirmary.  
Bolton Infirmary.  
Preston Royal Infirmary.  
Sharoe Green Hospital, Fulwood.  
Isolation Hospital, Heath Charnock.  
Whelley Hospital, Wigan.  
Isolation Hospital, Deepdale, Preston.

All administered by Manchester Regional Hospital Board.

## MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE

These services are administered by the Lancashire County Council.

### Domiciliary Facilities.

There is now no County Midwife resident in the District. The service is provided from adjacent areas.

### Ante-Natal Clinics.

The large majority of the expectant mothers in the area attend the ante-natal clinic at 2/4 St. Thomas's Square, Chorley, and avail themselves of the facilities provided by the Lancashire County Divisional Health Service.

### Maternity Beds.

Normal accommodation is available at Chorley and District Hospital and Eaves Lane Hospital, Chorley.  
Other hospitals are also available.



## Infant Welfare Centres.

An Infant Welfare Centre is held weekly (Wednesdays 2-4 p.m.) at the Christ Church Schoolroom, Adlington, and is attended fortnightly by a Medical Officer of the Lancashire County Council, as well as the County Health Visitor. The Medical Officer is Dr. Doris J. Black.

## Health Visitor.

The County's Health Visitor for the area is Mrs. Ashley, 123 Bolton Road, Chorley.

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

### Water Supply.

The water supply of the area is provided (1) from the Blackrod Reservoir (by arrangement with Blackrod Urban District Council) and (2) from a tapping of the conduits taking the Manchester Supply from Thirlmere (by arrangement with the Manchester Corporation). During the year 8 samples of water from the Manchester supply were submitted for bacteriological analysis. All but two were reported as satisfactory.

During the year a chlorinating plant was installed at Harding Street Pump-house, since which time samples of water taken have proved satisfactory, as follows:-

<u>Location</u>	<u>No.B.Coli per 100ml.</u>	<u>No.faecal coli. per 100ml.</u>	<u>No.non-faecal coli,per 100ml.</u>	<u>Analyst's remarks.</u>
9 Railway Road.	5	0	3	Suspicious
6 Market Street.	5	0	1	Suspicious
163 Chorley Road.	0	0	0	Satisfactory
6 Market Street.	0	0	0	Satisfactory
9 Railway Road .	0	0	0	Satisfactory
163 Chorley Road.	0	0	0	Satisfactory
26 Chapel Street	0	0	0	Excellent
Railway Road	0	0	0	Satisfactory

The Blackrod supply is already chlorinated and samples taken from that authority were consistently satisfactory.

Every house in the area has a "main supply". The average daily consumption was 119,506 gallons which gives a consumption per head of the population of 28.76 gallons daily. The supplies are interchangeable and complementary.

During the year extensions were made to the water mains in Lancaster Street.

### Drainage and Sewerage.

Only 34 outlying properties are not connected to the sewerage system. These have septic tanks. Sewerage disposal is by precipitation and filtration over 3 coke filters at the Sewerage Disposal Works at Harrisons Farm. The effluent is discharged into the River Douglas. The Sewage Works was modernised in 1931. Extensions to sewers were undertaken in 1957 to new properties.

### Refuse Collection and Disposal.

1424 moveable ashbins are emptied weekly by the Local Authority. The refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping at two sites.

On the 1st January the Council brought into operation the collection of house refuse by means of an 8/8½ cubic yards Karrier Bantam Refuse Collecting Vehicle to replace the existing horse-drawn vehicle. This modern means of collection is giving a more efficient service and is less laborious for the collectors.

### Cleansing of Drains and Closets.

Closet accommodation :-

Privy Middens - No. of Middens	...	...	10
No. of Closets attached thereto	...	...	12
No. of Pail Closets	...	...	1
No. of freshwater Closets	...	...	1725
No. of waste water Closets	...	...	3





The onus for the satisfactory maintenance of drains and closets is upon the property owners and such work is not undertaken by the Local Authority.

#### Lavatories and Urinals.

There are public lavatories at the upper and lower Recreation Grounds, and modern sanitary conveniences at Station Road and Babylon Lane. The Conveniences are cleaned daily by the Local Authority's staff. Trouble is being experienced with the wilful damage that is persistently being done to the two modern sanitary conveniences.

#### Shops and Offices.

There are from 90-100 registered Shops in the area. No action was taken under the Shops Acts or Public Health Act, 1936, during the year. The County Council are responsible for the administration of the Shops Acts, your Sanitary Inspector acting as their agent. The Sanitary Inspector made 87 visits to these premises during the year.

#### Camping Sites.

There are no camping sites in the area.

#### Smoke Abatement.

No. of factory and Works chimneys in the area	...	4
No. of observations taken during the year	...	48

No legal proceedings were taken for excessive smoke emissions during the year, but personal contact with the firms and their boiler personnel was maintained by the Sanitary Inspector.

During the year under review certain provisions under the Clean Air Act, 1956 were still to become operative as follows:-

Sections 1 & 2, which with certain exceptions prohibit the emission of dark smoke from chimneys.

Sections 5 to 9, which regulate the discharge of grit and dust from furnaces.

Section 16 which provides new powers for dealing with smoke nuisances.

Sections 19 & 20 which prohibit dark smoke from railway engines and ships.

At the end of the year the necessary Order bringing these provisions into force had not been made, but this was received early in 1958, under the title "The Clean Air Act, 1956 (Appointed Day) Order, 1958, in which it fixed 1st June 1958 as the date of operation of all those provisions of the Act which are not already in force.

#### Disinfestation of Houses.

One house was found to be slightly infested during the year 1957, and was treated with Pyrethum D.D.T. powder with good effect.

#### Schools.

The water supply of the Schools is from the mains.

The following Schools are within the Urban District :-

Adlington C.E. School.

St. Paul's C.E. School.

St. Paul's Infants School.

During the year improvements to the lavatory accommodation at the St. Paul's Schools have been carried out.

#### Other Matters.

There are in the area no Common Lodging Houses or "Houses let in Lodgings" registered, no swimming baths or pools, no underground sleeping rooms, no premises where rag flock is manufactured, and no premises for the undertaking of offensive trades.





### Summary of Sanitary Inspections

No. of premises visited	...	...	43
No. of visits made to above	...	...	54
No. of nuisances discovered	....	...	43
No. of nuisances abated	...	...	42
No. of informal notices served	...	...	43
No. of Statutory Notices served	...	...	Nil.

There were no legal proceedings for the abatement of nuisances.

### HOUSING

Number of new houses erected during the year:-

(1) By Local Authority	...	...	16
(2) By other Local Authorities	...	...	-
(3) By other bodies or persons	...	...	9

#### 1. Inspection of dwelling houses during the year.

(1) (a) Total no. of dwelling houses inspected formally or informally for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts).	...	...	41
(b) No. of inspections, formal or informal, made for the purpose	...	...	51
(2) Dwelling houses unfit for human habitation and not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered fit:			
(a) No. found during year	...	...	-
(b) No. (or estimated no.) at end of year	...	...	51
(3) No. of dwelling houses found during the year to be not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	...	34

#### 2. Houses Demolished

In Clearance Areas - (Housing Act, 1936, and Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954) :

(1) Houses unfit for human habitation	...	Nil.
(2) Houses included by reason of bad arrangement etc.	...	Nil.
(3) Houses on land acquired under Section 27, Housing Act, 1936	...	Nil.

Not in Clearance Areas:

(4) As a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 11, Housing Act, 1936	...	Nil.
---	-----	------

#### 3. Unfit Houses Closed :

(1) Under Section 11, Housing Act, 1936, and Sections 10 (1) and 11(2), Local Govt. (Misc. Prov.) Act, 1953.	Nil.
(2) Under Sections 3(1) and 3(2) Housing Act, 1949..	Nil
(3) Parts of buildings closed under Section 12, Housing Act, 1936.	Nil

#### 4. Unfit Houses Made Fit and Houses in which Defects were Remedied.

	By Owner.	By Local Authority.
(1) After informal action by local authority	38	nil
(2) After formal notice under -		
a. Public Health Acts	nil	nil
b. Housing Act, 1936	nil	nil
(3) Under Section 5, Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954	1	nil



## 5. Unfit Houses in Temporary Use (Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954):-

Position at end of year:

		No. of houses
(1) Retained for temporary accommodation -		
(a) Under Section 2	...	nil.
(b) Under Section 3	...	nil.
(c) Under Section 4	...	nil.
(2) Licensed for temporary occupation under Section 6.		nil.

## 6. Purchase of Houses by Agreement:

Houses in Clearance Areas other than those included in confirmed Clearance Orders or Compulsory Purchase Orders purchased during the year ... Nil.

## 7. Housing Act, 1949 - Improvement Grants etc.:

	Private bodies or individuals		Local Authority	
	No. of schemes	No. of dwell. houses or other bldgs. affected.	No. of schemes	No. of dwell. houses or other buildings affected.
(a) Submitted by private individuals to local authority	4	4	-	-
(b) Approved by local authority	1	1	-	-
(c) Submitted by local authority to Ministry	-	-	-	-
(d) Finally approved by Ministry	-	-	-	-
(e) Work completed	1	1	-	-
(f) Additional separate dwellings included in (e) above	-	-	-	-
(g) Any other action taken under the Act (give brief particulars)	... None.			

## HOUSING CONDITIONS

Although houses built since 1914 are brick, houses built before that date are mainly stone-built with slated roofs. These are mostly of the two or three bedroom terrace type and lack modern amenities such as food stores, bathrooms, hot water systems etc. Their average age is 60 years, and the prevailing defects are dampness and to a much lesser extent, roofs, but for the most part they are well-maintained. Many of these houses are now owner-occupied and are gradually being modernised.

The County Council have introduced a scheme for the Housing of the Aged. This scheme offers grants to Housing Authorities for the provision of certain welfare facilities (e.g. warden, laundry, common room, etc.) in connection with the authorities' "Housing of the Aged". The Council might give serious consideration to this question in future housing projects, as the care of aged persons is a matter which is giving many local authorities much concern.

## Housing Schemes.

The 16 houses on Fair View Housing Estate started in 1956 have been completed.

## Overcrowding or Housing Shortage.

49 applications for houses were received during the year, 18 of which came from persons living outside Adlington. Only 8 of the Adlington applicants were not already living in their own homes. The overcrowded family on the housing list was re-housed in a four bedroomed parlour type house in January.

## Rent Act, 1957.

The Rent Act, 1957, came into operation on the 6th July 1957, the main







purpose of which was to enable rented houses and flats to be put and kept in repair, and to make better use of existing accommodation. The Minister in the circular accompanying the Act asked local authorities to do all that they could to assist people affected by the Act in their areas.

Rent Act, 1957.

Part II of the First Schedule.

No. of applications for certificates of disrepair	...	4
No. of certificates issued	...	1
No. of Undertakings given by Landlords to remedy defects	...	1
No. of applications in which the defects were remedied immediately after local authority's notice	...	None. work in progress.
No. of applications withdrawn	...	nil
No. of certificates of disrepair revoked	...	nil.

The Housing Act, 1957.

The Housing Act, 1957 came into operation on the 1st September, 1957, and generally speaking, it consolidates all the existing legislation dealing with the repair, reconstruction, closing and demolition of private houses.

### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

#### (a) Milk Supply.

In April 1956 the Milk (Special Designations) (Specified Areas) Order came into force, and so far as Addington is concerned, it became necessary for retailers to sell only designated milk - Tuberculin-tested, Pasteurised or Sterilised.

There are 4 producer-retailers with premises in Addington and 4 retailers with premises outside the district retailing milk in Addington. In addition there are 4 shops licensed to sell Sterilized Milk.

#### (b) Meat.

There is only one licensed Slaughterhouse within the district, and this is only used in case of emergency.

There are 5 Butchers and one Pork Butcher in the district, and 18 visits were made to these shops during the year, and to meat preparing premises.

#### (c) Other Foods.

Places where other foods are prepared, or kept for sale are inspected frequently by the Public Health Inspector.

There are 10 small bakehouses and 4 fried fish shops in the district - all are kept in a satisfactory condition.

32 Inspections of places where food is prepared were made during the year by the Public Health Inspector.

The following list gives the number of Food Premises by type of business in the district at the end of the year under review :-

General Grocers and provision dealers	...	22
Greengrocers and fruiterers (inc. fishmongers etc.)	...	8
Fishmongers (inc. poultry, game, etc.) only	...	-
Meat Shops (butchers, cooked & Preserved meat etc.)	...	6
Bakers and/or Confectioners	...	10
Fried Fish shops	...	4
Shops selling mainly sugar confectionery, minerals, ice-cream etc.	...	10
Licensed premises, clubs, canteens, cafes, snack bars	...	18
Others	...	36



### Unsound Food

During the year the following food was surrendered as unfit for human consumption :-

Tinned Ham and Tongue	...	...	32 lbs.
Lamb	...	...	44 lbs.
New Zealand Frozen Egg	...	...	28 lbs.
		<u>Tins</u>	
Tinned Peas	...	41	37lbs. 11oz.
Stewed Steak	...	16	13lbs. 13 oz.
Tinned Salmon	...	10	4lbs.
Tinned Milk (evap.)	...	34	24lbs.
Tinned soup	...	34	29lbs.
Tinned fruits	...	54	56lbs. 4oz.

### Ice-cream

Ice-cream retailed throughout the district is confined to pre-packed standard brands.

### Food Hygiene Regulations.

During the year 87 visits have been made to food premises and it is encouraging to find that the retailers are, on the whole, doing everything that is possible to comply with the Food Hygiene Regulations, and in no case has it been necessary to resort to statutory action. In three cases sinks with hot water over have been installed.

### Rodent Control.

The following table gives the work done during the year.

#### Type of Property

	Local Authority	Dwelling houses.	Agricultural.	All other inc. business pren.	Total
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Total no. of properties in Local Authority's District	8	1381	14	161	1564
No. of properties insp. by Local Auth. during 1957 as a result of (a) Notification	a.	5	-	-	5
(b) Survey or otherwise	b. 8	96	14	3	121
No. of properties insp. (see above) found to be infested with rats.	Major. -	-	-	-	-
	Minor 2	4	-	-	6
No. of properties insp. (see above) found to be seriously infested with mice	-	-	-	-	-
No. of Block control schemes carried out.			nil.		





PREVENTION OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES

During the year the following cases were notified :-

			<u>1957</u>	<u>1956</u>
Meningococcal Infection	...	...	1	-
Measles	...	...	21	192
Scarlet Fever	...	...	1	1
Whooping Cough	...	...	6	66
Pneumonia	...	...	2	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	-	1

It is gratifying to note that this has been the 13th successive year without a Diphtheria case notified.

Tuberculosis.

Two new cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were added to the Register during the year, as against one in 1956.







